

Application SN
10/691,483

CLAIMS

Please add Claims 21-24 as shown.

1. (Previously Presented) An in-car video system, comprising:
a video camera fixably mounted to an automobile for capturing an image of an event and producing a corresponding video stream;
a digital video recorder fixably mounted to the automobile, the digital video recorder having a receiving area being adapted to operably couple a flash memory card to the digital video recorder so that the flash memory functions as a digital video storage medium; and
a controller coupled to the video recorder to control writing of data that is representative of the video stream to a flash memory to thereby generate a stored video record of the event,
wherein the digital video recorder and controller are integrally packaged and positioned within a factory-sized radio opening of a production automobile having a police package option, and
further wherein the digital video recorder is located in a passenger compartment of the automobile such that it is in a direct operative relationship with a user seated in the front seat of the automobile.
2. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the receiving area is further adapted so that the flash memory card is removably couplable to the digital video recorder.
3. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the flash memory is a flash memory card selected from the group consisting of Smart Media, Secure Digital, Multimedia Card, xD-Picture Card and Memory Stick.
4. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the flash memory is a CompactFlash card.

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5. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the digital video recorder and controller are integrally packaged and sized to fit substantially within a standard single DIN sized radio opening.

6. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the digital video recorder and controller are integrally packaged and sized to fit substantially within a standard 1.5 DIN sized radio opening.

7. (Original) The in-car video system of claim 1 where the digital video recorder and controller are integrally packaged and sized to fit substantially within a standard double DIN sized radio opening.

8-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) In an automobile-mounted video system including a car-mounted camera, a method of operating a digital video recorder, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a flash memory card in a receiving area of the digital video recorder, the receiving area being adapted to operably couple the flash memory card to the digital video recorder so that the flash memory functions as a digital video storage medium;

receiving a video stream of an event captured by the camera;

converting the video stream to a form that is writable to the flash memory;

writing the converted video stream to the flash memory to thereby store a record of the event on the flash memory; and

fixably positioning the digital video recorder substantially within a dashboard area of the automobile so that the digital video recorder is located in the passenger compartment of the automobile and is in a direct operative relationship with a user seated in the front seat of the automobile.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further including a step of reading the stored record from the flash memory.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 further including a step of transmitting the record read from the flash memory to a remote monitor.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 further including a step of removing the flash memory from the video recorder.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further including a step of storing the removed flash memory.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 where the dashboard area comprises a dashboard portion that is typically used to house a sound system.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 where the dashboard portion is double DIN sized.

20. (Original) The method of claim 12 further including a step of receiving a second flash memory card in a receiving area of the digital video recorder, the receiving area being adapted to operably couple the flash memory card to the digital video recorder so that the second flash memory functions as a second digital video storage medium that automatically stores a portion of the video stream once the other flash memory card becomes full.

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21. (New) An in-car video system, comprising:
- a video camera fixably mounted to an automobile for capturing an image of an event in front of the automobile and producing a corresponding video stream;
 - a digital video recorder fixably mounted to the automobile, the digital video recorder having a receiving area being adapted to operably couple a flash memory card to the digital video recorder so that the flash memory functions as a digital video storage medium; and
 - a controller coupled to the video recorder to control writing of data that is representative of the video stream to a flash memory to thereby generate a stored video record of the event,
- wherein the digital video recorder and controller are integrally packaged and positioned within a factory-sized radio opening of a production automobile having a police package option, and
- further wherein the digital video recorder is located in a passenger compartment of the automobile such that it is in a direct operative relationship with a user seated in the front seat of the automobile.

22. (New) The in-car video system of Claim 21 where said video camera is mounted on the automobile's dashboard.

23. (New) The in-car video system of Claim 21 where said video camera is mounted on the automobile's windshield.

24. (New) The in-car video system of Claim 21 where said video camera has a field of view corresponding to the field of view of a person seated in the front seat of the automobile.